

The QUARAE



RADIO LAW: HAMS WIN MOBILE IN MOTION EXEMPTION IN NEW JERSEY

Amateur Radio has won an important exemption in New Jersey. One that should keep the states hams running mobile for a long time. Amateur Radio Newslines's Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, reports:

New Jersey Assembly Bill A 4146 and Senate Bill S 1099/2764 were introduced in the New Jersey legislature to restrict cell phone use and text messaging while driving. The twin measures were passed on June 21st and await the governor's signature. As originally introduced, the bills would have prohibited the use of any and all electronic communications devices for talking, listening or text messaging while driving. This could have meant that New Jersey hams would have effectively been banned from operating while mobile in motion.

But that won't be the case. This is because the combined measure as passed includes a sentence that makes Amateur Radio the only service exempt from the all inclusive ban. That hard fought for exemption reads -- and we quote: "For the purposes of this section an 'electronic communication device' shall not include an Amateur Radio".

Talk about getting a broadly worded exemption that covers every aspect of Amateur Service communications. More important it means that use Amateur Radio while driving will continue to be permitted in New Jersey. The only caveat is that it is done safely and the ham operator is not engaging in inattentive driving. The new law goes into effect four months after the governor signs it. From that point on, hams are advised to keep a copy of the measure and their Amateur Radio license in your glove compartment if you drive in the Garden State. The exemption for Amateur Radio came about thanks to the work the hams in the Northern New Jersey and Southern New Jersey ARRL sections who contacted their legislators. This, to make sure that Amateur Radio mobile operations weren't adversely affected by the then pending legislation.

July 2007
Vol. 6 Issue 7

Club Repeaters

• Erie
146.610-
PL 186.2
• Waterford
146.820-
PL 186.2

Club Website:
www.raerie.org

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Just a Reminder ...RAE Meeting this Thursday

The Radio Association of Erie meeting will be held on
Thursday July 5th at 7 PM at the RAE Clubhouse at
3940 WAGNER RD in McKean.

2007 Officers and Contacts

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Information not available as of
Press Time

Calendar of Events

Thursday July 5th-

General Membership Meeting

Time: 7pm

Location: **RAE CLUB HOUSE**

3940 Wagner Road - Off Of Bargain RD

Thursday - July 24th-

Board of Directors Meeting

Time: 7 pm

Location: **RAE CLUB HOUSE**

3940 Wagner Road - Off Of Bargain RD

Amateur Radio Classes

If you know of anyone who is interested in getting their technician class license, classes will start on Tuesday, July 10 at 6 PM here at the Red Cross Chapter House. Instruction will be Tuesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 PM, July 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31 and August 2. The exam will be administered at the Chapter House at 6 PM on Tuesday, August 7.

License manuals are available (\$19.95) but not required. There is no charge for the class. Licenses are free and renewable for 10 year periods. Administrative fee for the FCC exam is \$14.00.

For more information please contact Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@erieredcross.org, (814) 434-0798 for more information and/or to assure you a seat.

Minutes

Radio Association of Erie
General Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by KE3V.

Board Members Present: KE3V, N3NKV, KB3CAT, KB3CAT

Not Present: N3ZNP, KD3D, K3LD, KB3JSN, WB3DOM

Visitors: None

Upgrades/New Calls: None

Silent Keys: Joe W3KKT and Jake N3MEC

Secretary's Report: N3NKV asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting as printed in the QUARAE. Motion made by AD4UL. Seconded by N3EPU. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: N3NKV provided the treasurer's report that was presented at the board of director's meeting.

Board of Directors Meeting: N3NKV gave an overview of the Board meeting. Topics discussed included: redo of website, Repeater repairs, Elmering program, Simplex Contest, 440 Repeater, Stairs for club house

RACES: WX3E reported that ARES maybe called up for the July 4th fireworks downtown. WX3E reported that effective June 30th N3SRD will be stepping down as Erie County Skywarn Coordinator. The ARES team is in the process of finding a replacement.

Repeater: N3APP provided an update on the repeaters. At the 61 repeater:

- The 186.2 PL reed was installed in the micro receiver.
- The duplexers have been moved into the new cabinet
- N3APP is waiting for dimensions of the stairwell at ST Vincent's before the cabinet is moved.

At the 82 repeater:

- The power amplifier was take out of line due to desense issues. The repeater is running 4 1/2 watts off the exciter. The long term plans are to replace the exciter and the PA.

N3APP asked for helped with the repeaters. Especially in the area of soldering.

Website: N3NKV reported that the website has been updated. It still needs some minor tweaking done to it.

Public Service: AD4UL reported that he is in need of more people for the Edinboro Triathlon this weekend.

Field Day: Doug AD4UL reported that field day would be held at the club house this year.

Old Business: None

New Business: N3LBI reminded members to contact their state senator to support Senate Bill 884. This bill is similar to PRB 1.

Response Technology Training Team: K3UFG reported that the Red Cross will be having a training for this team on August on August 10th-12th.

Education: K3UFG mentioned that a Technician class will be starting on July 10th.

Kanzius Cancer Research Project: KE3V mentioned that the membership should make a donation to the project. WB3IGK made a motion that the club donate \$200. K3GJK mentioned that the club add to the wording "from the amateur radio community". N3NKV mentioned we may want to check with the treasurer and the rest of the board of directors. N3APP made a motion that we table the motion until next meeting. Motion to table carried.

Minutes continued on PG 4

Minutes Continued

50/50 Winner: NI3Q \$13.00

Motion to Adjourn: Made by K3UFG. Seconded by KB3BAM at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Lis
Radio Association of Erie
Secretary

Field Day 2007



Doug AD4UL up on the roof of the garage stringing dipoles.



KE3V climbed the tower and found that our 80 meter dipole needed a little TLC.



Melissa Fuller at the mic while Doug AD4UL does the logging.



Jeff KB3NQG on 80 mtr phone

From the President's Desk

It's Summertime!

I had a great time at Field Day again this year and hope you did too. I don't have the official numbers here, but I know W3GV made several-hundred contacts during the event. We operated 4A, rather casually, with only two or three transmitters running most of the time. We enjoyed excellent WX, food, fellowship, and got to play with our radios to boot. It just doesn't get much better than that.

Early on Sunday morning, I found a couple photo albums of RAE Field Day operations from the past. We looked through them during a lull in activity (around 3am Sunday). I really enjoyed looking through the old pictures and remembering all those Field Days at the different locations, though there were some sad moments when realizing how many of our old friends won't be coming to any more Field Days.

At our June meeting, we recognized two recently silenced keys; Joe, W3KKT, and Jake, N3MEC. These men were both long-time local hams who gave their time and energy to promoting our hobby. Shortly after that, Al, N3NHX, another local ham and fellow VE examiner passed on. These ham friends will be missed.

Those who attended the June RAE meeting will remember that I floated the idea that we should consider sending a donation to help John, K3TUP develop, test, and hopefully gain approval for his cancer-fighting machine. We had a motion (tabled for now) that the RAE contribute from the general fund, but that wasn't necessarily what I was looking for. I realize I didn't articulate my thoughts very well, but with only a few hundred dollars in the bank, bills to pay, '82 with a blown PA, '61 needing repairs, and problems with our water system, I'm not sure the RAE is up to making a meaningful donation from its own treasury.

I think Jerry, K3GJK hit the nail on the head when he suggested that the donation should be from "the local amateur community" -not necessarily just from the RAE. I'd be proud to see the RAE lead the charge, provide the collection point, etc., but I think the donations should come from area hams like you and me. Perhaps we could approach the other area radio clubs to join in.

I'm sure you've read that John's machine, if successful may put Erie on the map again, and perhaps bring more jobs to the area, but most importantly, it has the potential to save the very lives of our club members, family members, friends and others we hold dear.

John has supported the RAE and the local ham community in the past, and is now demonstrating true ham spirit by combining his imagination, technical expertise, and a willingness to experiment in a way that serves the public good. Every report I've seen or heard about his machine has been positive and it seems to be well on its way to being proven effective and approved for human trials. I truly believe this project deserves our support.

With this in mind, I'd ask that the currently tabled motion be amended, or withdrawn and resubmitted to facilitate collecting money from the local ham community to donate to K3TUP's project. The wording and details can be worked out at the July 5th meeting. Please think it over and bring your ideas to the meeting.

Other ham-related events this summer include the UCWA Hamfest at the Greene Twp building on July 14, and the RAE picnic at the EOC on July 21. I hope to see you at these events.

73,

Kevin McKenna, KE3V
Radio Association of Erie President



July 1972

35 YEARS AGO

This article appeared in the July 1972 issue of the QUARAE. A big thanks goes to Mike Hall WA3HSR for delivering to Field Day a "VERY LARGE BOX" of QUA-RAES from the 1970s along with various pieces of RAE memorabilia.

As time goes on, many of these items will be put on display at the club house.



RAE HELPS WITH FLOOD COMMUNICATIONS

Most hams have never enjoyed the pleasure of operating a Signal One CX7A, let alone attempting repairs on one and recently yours truly was delegated the job by W3AQY to repair the audio section of his rig.

For the past three weeks both Mac and I have awaited the arrival of a necessary part from California to repair the rig and on the night it arrived the desk was cleared off, the rig was removed from it's case and repairs were begun.

This rig was beautiful! All the boards could be removed and repaired without removing the wiring and the repairs were made easily. The rig was put back together and fired up on ECARS. Suddenly we realized that a real emergency was at hand. Wellsville, New York was being threatened by high water and other communities around that area were being evacuated.

The rig came off the desk faster than it went on--bearing in mind it's monetary value--and the Swan was fired up on ECARS to assist the stations in the threatened areas. Net control was called (as he was ready to turn it over to anybody who wanted it) and W3ZLO became net control.

While attempting to contain the bedlam on ECARS, we grabbed the twisted pair and, between calls got a few other hams

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RAE Helps (continued)

in the area on the air. Somehow we managed to notify the local Red Cross of the problem in New York.

In the confusion, a supper was downed and other important contacts were made with local officials. Later in the evening, the small crew that was assembled moved to the Wagner Road EOC where the high power Invader 2000 could be used.

Later in the evening when the skip lengthened, our efforts were worthless into New York, but we still stood by on 75 phone to assist if we were needed. All the next day from the home QTH, assistance was rendered to too many stations to remember. Still no sign of let up.

Somehow the thoughts of returning to the CX7A and my new hobby of archery were forgotten as the day wore on and the traffic list hit the 100 mark. Eyes started to tear with the dense cloud of cigarette smoke getting thicker by the minute.

The reports from New York of the rising river and continuing rain led to the spine-chilling thought of the Kinzua Dam not holding and of the rivers and streams below. At this time this was just a thought, but around 3:30 that afternoon, it became a reality and the Pennsylvania CD-RACES net was activated.

Operation on the New York assistance was abandoned for the moment and operations at W3ZLO were concentrated on the western area RACES frequency. River and evacuation information was passed to and from CD officials all over the state. The water was rising and small dams were collapsing under the pressure of water backed up behind them. Rivers and streams were spilling over their banks.

Agnes had not died! She was alive and violently dumping water at a fantastic rate right in the middle of the area that had just received the onrush of water from the broken dams on the upper watershed. Major flooding was everywhere

Calls for urgent help were heard on the frequencies for manpower, communications, planes, boats and every conceivable piece of emergency equipment many times as the flood waters continued to rise around the Wilkesbarre, Scranton, and Harrisburg areas. Many times stations signed off the air to evacuate their post because of the rising water. And many times these same stations returned operating from another location. Hams like these kept the disaster areas in communications with the rest of the world.

Then the phone began to ring . . . and on the other end were sobbing voices wanting to know about relatives and friends in the stricken area. Their inquiries sometimes could not be answered for days because there was no contact into that area.

Thanks to Doc, W3YWL; Bob, WA3HDK; Mike, WA3HSR; Dick, W3PIX; Chuck, K3NAU; the announcers at WMDI; all the crew on the repeater and the others—WA3FFD, WA3MKT, K3VLP, WA3MAU, WA3KAI and W3STK who either assisted or stood by and helped in some small way to keep things going. And a big thanks to W3GHT, W3PJD, and K3ZGG who lead us on the right track of information needed in the net many times.

The many hours spent by the stations in the area that were on the air were often tiring, but they were all worth it if only one life was saved as a result. We may never know who it was that helped but the confirmation that medical supplies were received or that the choppers arrived sure gives one a warm feeling in his heart and makes one want to go on to help some more.

Sure, there were some laughs; some poor operating procedures; some tense moments; but the sound of a thank you from a shakey, tear-choked voice on the other end of the phone when you tell them that their inquiry was received and that everybody was safe makes amateur radio something very special.

As for the CX7A—it is still not repaired as the traffic list is still mounting. And there are still two TV sets on the

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Radio Association of Erie
P.O. Box 844
Erie, Pa 16512

RAE HELPS (continued)

bench that had to be delayed along with that archery practice and, oh yes, Field Day.

Finally, I would like to thank W3KPM, W3LKJ and K3PCI for standing by on 3990.5 during the time we were not available and for the fine leadership from Tom, W3KPM, whose phone was still quite warm on Sunday afternoon. Thanks fellows. If it happens again (and I hope it doesn't) W3ZLO will be there again to help out.

Chuck Smith, W3ZLO

The RAE needs your old computer!

The RAE is in need of at least 1 or 2 Pentium II machines running with a 300 mhz processor. These computers are needed to replace the two that are used for logging and other ham radio applications. By going to faster machines, we will be able to network the machines in the future.

**WE DO NOT NEED THE MONITOR—
JUST THE CPU!!!**

**For More Information Contact John N3NKV
at jjlis@adelphia.net**

